

THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

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PRICE FIVE CENTS.

TOWN COUNCIL.

LINDEN AVENUE CASE A SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION.

No Action Taken on Fire Houses—Sidewalk Repairs Made—Petitions for Water Mains—Trust Company Wants Part of Town Deposits.

When Chairman George Peterson at the Town Council meeting Monday night made the usual announcement asking if any citizen present had anything to bring before the Council, Charles W. Powers, leader of the contingent of Linden Avenue property-owners who are asking for an official investigation of the improvement work recently done on that street, arose and made a statement to the Council. Mr. Powers said that certain of the property-owners had gone carefully over the street and had compared the work done with the bills charged for it and were unable to strike a balance.

Mr. Powers said that it had been asserted that some of the matters that the property-owners were protesting about were only small things. Admitting that such was the case, he declared that there were some large items in the bills that could not be verified by observation or investigation. He concluded that the property-owners might be mistaken in some of their conclusions, but he did not think the mistakes were all on their side.

He requested that a meeting be called to be attended by the members of the Council, the Board of Assessors, the Town Engineer and the property-owners for the purpose of arriving at a satisfactory understanding of the case. His plan for making such a request was based on the belief that the Chairman of the Sidewalk Committee was going to recommend the adoption of the assessment as based on the official report of the Town Engineer, and thus force the property-owners to carry their grievances into the courts. Mr. Powers said that the property-owners did not desire to take such a course, and would not if it could be shown to their satisfaction that the assessment was approximately correct as to work done and material used.

Councilman Chabot made a motion embodying the request of Mr. Powers and it was seconded by Councilman Farrand.

Councilman Moore, Chairman of the Sidewalk Committee, said that he had no objections to offer against the adoption of the motion by the Council, but in his opinion it was a useless motion and would not tend to facilitate a settlement of the dispute. Mr. Moore said that if it was the purpose of the motion to take the matter out of the hands of the Sidewalk Committee he was perfectly agreeable to that. Mr. Moore said that it had at no time been the intention of the Sidewalk Committee to take any arbitrary action in regard to a recommendation report on the case, and there was no objection on the part of the Sidewalk Committee to showing the report to the property-owners before it was submitted to the Council. Mr. Moore stated that the Sidewalk Committee had sent a letter to Mr. Oimsted asking him to fix a date when he could meet with the Sidewalk Committee and the property-owners. Mr. Moore said that the Linden Avenue case had come to a legacy from a previous Council to the Sidewalk Committee of the present Council, and the present Sidewalk Committee was not familiar with the state of the street previous to the improvement.

Councilman Walker, Mr. Moore's colleague in the Sidewalk Committee, stated that the substance of what Mr. Powers had requested was right in line with the action the Sidewalk Committee had determined upon taking just previous to the meeting.

Councilman Conlan offered an amendment to Mr. Chabot's motion to the effect that the Linden Avenue matter be referred to the Sidewalk Committee.

Councilman Farrand said there was no objection of taking the matter out of the hands of the Sidewalk Committee, which was not the purport of the motion before the Council.

Mr. Chabot's motion was adopted and the Clerk instructed to take the necessary steps for the proposed conference.

Councilman Farrand of the Street Lighting Committee reported that after investigating the West Passaic Avenue for street lights the committee had decided to place three lights in that place.

At the Fire Committee Mr. Farrand reported that the plans for the new fire houses were not yet ready, but he expected to submit the plans with a recommendation for their adoption.

was referred to the Sidewalk Committee with power.

Mr. Moore reported that the matter of fixing the boundary line between the borough of Glen Ridge and the town would be taken up by the Borough Council at its next meeting.

Mr. Moore also reported a new crosswalk put down at Thomas Street and Linden Avenue, and also a dangerous situation removed at Ashland and Linden Avenues.

Mr. Conlan of the Road Committee reported progress in the matter of the complaint made by Mr. Van Wagoner about the surface water in Railroad Place. On motion of Mr. Conlan the Jerome Place improvement was referred to the Board of Assessors for the purpose of levying the assessment.

Mr. Farrand brought up the question of the right of the Council to remove or order the removal of a partly destroyed building on property near Christ Episcopal Church. Some time ago the building complained of was partly destroyed by fire, and has been left in a dilapidated condition ever since, much to the disgust of the owners of adjoining property.

On motion of Councilman Harrison, Commissioner of Deeds Peter J. Quilan was appointed by the Council to take the acknowledgements in the tax sale cases.

A petition for a water main in Hicriehs Place was referred to the Water Committee with power. Dr. Harrison stated that in the present situation of the water supply question there was very little chance for securing any extensions to the water mains.

Chairman Conlan of the Road Committee reported that arrangements were being made by the Road Committee with the pipe line contractors for dirt to do some filling in Hicriehs Place.

The Bloomfield Trust Company made application to the Council to have a part of the town funds deposited with that institution. The company stated that it paid three per cent. interest on daily balance. The application was referred to the Finance Committee.

Hope He Will Stay.

While it will be a matter of pleasure for the Rev. Charles A. Cook's numerous friends to extend congratulations over the important appointment he has received in Baptist Church work, yet many will sincerely hope that his acceptance of the assignment will not necessitate his removal from the town. The Rev. Mr. Cook is an active, vital force in some branches of public life here, and his removal from here would be much regretted and deplored. It is understood that Mr. Cook's future stay here depends upon where the main office of the new branch of Baptist Church work of which he will have charge will be located. If New York city is chosen as the place Mr. Cook may stay here. If Philadelphia is chosen he will have to move there.

Old Fashioned Picnic.

An old fashioned picnic will be held on Saturday afternoon and evening, August 8, under the auspices of the Church of the Sacred Heart, in Glenwood Park. A committee of twenty, consisting of men and ladies of the parish, have been appointed and are working hard for the success of the affair. In the afternoon a number of athletic events will be run off, the winners of which will receive prizes. A "tug of war" between teams from the Lyceum and Division No. 2, A. O. H., will be an attractive feature. The park is being entirely renovated and will be in fine condition when the affair takes place.

Lightning's Strange Freak.

The stone work in front of the East Orange City Hall became thoroughly soaked during the storm Wednesday, and in some ways got charged with electricity, presumably from the wires which feed the big lights in front of the structure. A number of persons entering and leaving the hall did great "stunts" when their bodies or clothing came in contact with the walls, and Janitor James Tyrrell was busy explaining the cause of the sudden development of life in the stone.

No Decrease in Taxes.

At a special meeting of the East Orange City Council Wednesday night the books of the tax assessors were gone over. There is a big increase in valuations over last year's figures, and there is an enhancement of values owing to the large amount of new buildings. Despite this big increase the officials do not hold out any hope of lower taxes.

Coal Going Up.

We anticipate another rise in the wholesale price of coal about August 1.

PARK PLANS.

Essex County Park Commissioners Improving Wateessing Park—East Orange People Want the Co-operation of the People of This Town in a Scheme for the Enlargement of That Park.

The Essex County Park Commissioners have had a force of men at work in Wateessing Park during the past week. The roads, paths and bicycle track in the park have been covered with fine gravel, the grass cut and the shrubbery trimmed. Wateessing Park represents the only direct benefit this town has received from the county park scheme, and for this the town is indebted to the city of East Orange, which gave the land out of which the park was formed to the County Park Commission. While the town of Bloomfield has not given much attention to Wateessing Park either privately through its citizens or publicly through its officials, citizens of East Orange have not been so indifferent to the scheme, and hopes are entertained there that Wateessing Park may yet become of importance in the general county park scheme.

Some enterprising citizens of East Orange have undertaken to secure the enlargement of the park grounds and have asked the co-operation of the people in this town in the carrying out of the plan. It is proposed to ask the County Park Commission to extend Wateessing Park on the east to Prospect Street in front of the Wateessing School, and on the south to Dodd Street as far as Franklin School in East Orange. The aim of the promoters of the extension is to have a continuous park between the two schoolhouses.

The East Orange people who are advocating the scheme are confident that it can be brought about if the people in both towns will get together and work for it. The proposition is one that ought to enlist the interest of the people here, and advantage ought to be taken of the powerful influences that East Orange can bring to bear in the matter. It would not be amiss for the local Board of Trade to devote an evening to the subject and give some of the East Orange people an opportunity to speak on the subject of local interests in the county park scheme. With the enlargement of the Wateessing Park the chances for getting one of the parkways that are to traverse the county laid out through this vicinity will be increased. It will eventually prove a serious disadvantage to this town if the strip of land from the west side of Prospect Street to Glenwood Avenue, between Willow Street and Second River, is not added to Wateessing Park.

Dorfmueller-Kahnle.

Miss Mary Zahnle, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Zahnle, and Gustav Dorfmueller of Orange were married at the home of the bride's parents, 27 Washington street, at eight o'clock Monday night, Rev. H. C. Gruhnert of Orange performing the ceremony. The bride was dressed in silk tulle and carried a shower bouquet of sweet peas. Miss Laura Dorfmueller of Orange was bridesmaid, and Miss Lillian Zahnle, the bride's sister, was flower girl. Paul Geisler of Orange was best man. The couple, after a wedding trip, will live in Orange.

Teed Got the Reward.

The Town Council of Nutley Wednesday night ordered a warrant for \$500 drawn in favor of Constable W. P. Teed, of the Sheriff's office, as a reward for the apprehension of Robert Lane, the colored man who brutally assaulted Miss Elizabeth Rusby at Nutley January 7. There has been considerable speculation as to who was entitled to credit for the arrest, and before making the payment the Nutley authorities appealed to Prosecutor Eiker for his opinion in the matter.

Organist Toohy Resigns.

Martin A. Toohy, for several years organist in the Church of the Sacred Heart, has resigned. On Monday night the members of the church choir called at his home in Newark to express their appreciation of his efforts in their behalf and their regret at his resignation as organist of the Bloomfield church. Mr. Toohy is now head of the coal firm of P. Toohy & Sons.

Vice-President Bloch.

At a special meeting of the members of the Owl Bowling Club held Thursday night in the Bloomfield hotel, Bloch was elected Vice-President of the club to succeed Peter A. Wade, who was elected President. The club will go on its annual outing Thursday, September 3, and the nation will be Staten Island. The members will take their families with them.

THE WATER QUESTION.

Extension of Water Mains at a Standstill and Building Projects Delayed—A New Water Company Has Designs on This Town and Glen Ridge—The New Company a Child of the East Jersey.

At the meeting of the Town Council on Monday evening, July 6, a petition for a water main in Plymouth Street was referred to the Water Committee with power. At the Council meeting on Monday night of this week a petition for a water main in Hicriehs Place was also referred to the Water Committee with power. This reference with power implies that the Water Committee will go ahead and make all necessary arrangements with the Orange Water Company to have the water mains laid. In the case of both petitions Councilman Harrison, Chairman of the Water Committee, has stated to the Council that the reference with power carried no assurance with it that the request of the petitioners would be complied with until something definite was done about the water-supply question.

There is in reality at present no contract in force with the Orange Water Company, and water is supplied under a mutual arrangement between the Council and the water company, which is simply continued pending some definite action on the part of the Council either in making a new contract with the Orange Water Company in accordance with terms offered by the company, or the purchase of the water company's plant by the town.

Tersely summed up the water question in this town is at a standstill, and no extension of water mains can be expected until it is settled. To what extent the development of the town is being blocked by this unsettled state of affairs with regard to water is a problem about which opinions may differ. The people who are anxious to build houses and who want water should, however, understand that any delay in getting water is not due to any fault of the Water Committee. The latest news in regard to water is the talk of the organization of a new water company.

The Orange Water Company of East Orange is to have a strong competitor, judging from the prospectus which has recently been issued by the Little Falls Water Company. The latter has been incorporated under the laws of New Jersey, and it is believed that it really was organized by the East Jersey Water Company. It will be recalled that the pumping station at East Orange is now in possession of the authorities of that municipality, under the terms of the sale made about six months ago. The company was also supplying Bloomfield and Glen Ridge with water from its own pipe line. Recently this town has been negotiating with the water company for the purchase of the pipe line here, but no definite results have been obtained.

The new corporation proposes in substance to parallel the lines of the Orange Water Company in Glen Ridge, and has had its bonds printed and they will soon be placed on the market. The capital stock of the new company is \$60,000, and it is proposed to float the entire sum on first mortgage with the Federal Trust Company of Newark.

The company expects to set eighty hydrants on seven miles of mains, four miles of four-inch, a mile and a half of six-inch, and a mile and a half of eight-inch pipe. Under the franchise which the corporation expects to obtain from the township, the price per hydrant will be \$30 per year if less than fifty are used, and if a larger number are wanted the price will be \$25.

The water, according to the prospectus, is to be supplied by the East Jersey Water Company for twenty years and the rate to be charged is \$80 per million gallons for the first two years, and \$100 for the same quantity for the following eighteen years. It is also stated that the company is ready to start in to lay pipe as soon as the franchise is granted.

Death of Jacob Law.

Jacob Law, aged eighty-four years, and for many years a resident of this town, died at his home, No. 140 Orange Street, on Sunday evening. He had been unwell for some time past. Mr. Law was a native of Germany and came to this country when a young man. He was a cabinet maker by trade and worked many years for the Peloubet Company. He was of a quiet, reserved nature and was held in high esteem by his friends. He was a member of the Lutheran Church and was active in its services. He was buried at the Lutheran cemetery on Monday morning.

Leo XIII Obsequies.

Roman Catholics throughout the world are mourning the death of Pope Leo XIII. On Thursday a solemn pontifical mass of requiem was held in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Newark, and was attended by nearly all the Catholic church officers and clergy in the Newark diocese.

Bishop O'Connor has issued a letter to all the priests exercising faculties in the Newark diocese, directing them to offer at their earliest convenience, three masses for the repose of the soul of the departed Pontiff, and the reverend rectors will kindly arrange in their respective churches for a solemn requiem at which they will invite their people to assist and to pray for the same intention.

In the Church of the Sacred Heart to-morrow the Rev. J. M. Nardello will deliver an eulogy of Pope Leo after all the masses. On Thursday morning at half past eight o'clock, solemn mass of requiem will be held in the Church of the Sacred Heart. The Rev. J. M. Nardello will be the celebrant, the Rev. Father Placidus deacon, and the Rev. Father Federici sub-deacon. Mourning emblems will be draped on the high altar, the pulpit and the main door of the church.

Fire at the Truck House.

The headquarters of Essex Truck Company, No. 1, was partly destroyed by fire on Thursday night. The fire was discovered about ten o'clock. It had evidently been burning for some time previous and had made much headway in the space between the outside weather boarding and the inside wainscoting. The origin of the fire cannot be accounted for. From all indications it started in a locker on the south side of the room under the bell tower. The Truck Company organization is the chief loser by the fire in furniture, records, pictures and piano. The loss is fully covered by insurance.

Gilbert White, George W. Cook, F. L. Snedeker and Louis Vogelius were playing pool in the Truck House until half past nine Thursday night. An odor as of something burning was the subject of some facetious remarks and was attributed to the quality of cigars some of the players were smoking. Charles A. Davis and Frank N. Unangst went into the Truck House about ten o'clock and discovered the fire. Mr. Unangst sent in the alarm. The firemen had a difficult task in getting ahead of the fire, owing to the peculiar structure of the building.

Tribute to General Spencer.

Letters have been sent to the fire departments throughout this State by the officers of the State Firemen's Association requesting subscriptions for a testimonial for General Bird W. Spencer, the President, on the occasion of the association's convention to be held at Atlantic City in September next. General Spencer has been President of the State Firemen's Relief Association for the last twenty-five years.

Death of a Fireman.

John Fisher, a former East Orange fireman who was at one time quite prominent in that city, died Thursday in the Orange Memorial Hospital of paralysis. Fisher was once foreman of Franklin Hose Company No. 3.

Fire Committee's Troubles.

The fire at the truck-house Thursday night still further aggravates the problem of new fire houses with which the Fire Committee is struggling. It is doubly unfortunate that the fire should have occurred at this critical period in fire department affairs.

Notified to Move.

The Lackawanna Railroad Company notified all parties storing stone and other material on the railroad property near Conger street to move their goods from the property. This action was preliminary to beginning work on the new freight station.

Killed a Cow.

During the storm Wednesday afternoon at Belleville a valuable cow belonging to William Waters which was tied on the Pond Bank near the Second River, was struck and instantly killed by lightning. A few moments before the storm broke a number of small boys were at play in close proximity to the spot.

The New Freight Station.

The Lackawanna Railroad Company's new freight station is to be of brick and will be 140 feet in length and room for several cars to be unloaded and loaded at the same time will be provided.

Coal Going Up.

We anticipate another rise in the wholesale price of coal about August 1.

TROLLEY MATTERS.

COUNCILMAN MOORE STILL AT WORK ON THE TRANSFER PROBLEM.

Hopes for a General Plan Under Which Bloomfield Will Fare Equally with Other Towns—Another Trolley Project Made Public—The Morris Canal Bed Proposed as a Right-of-Way for a Trolley Line.

Councilman Moore of the Franchise Committee of the Town Council, in reporting on street-railroad matters at the Town Council meeting Monday night, said that no definite information had been received from the Public Service Corporation in regard to the matter of transfers. Mr. Moore said that it was well known that the Public Service Corporation officials had a plan for transfers under consideration, and he had read in the papers that the City Council of East Orange had received a letter from the company stating that a transfer system would go into operation about September 1. When the proposed plan was put in operation, Mr. Moore said, it would be general in its scope, and no municipality would be favored more than another.

Since the Public Service Corporation sent a letter to the East Orange City Council, the same company has sent a similar letter to the Orange City Council, and in the letter to Orange President Thomas N. McCarter of the Public Service Corporation says:

"Replying further to your communication of the 29th ult., containing copy of resolutions adopted by the Common Council of the city of Orange on the 23d ult., I take pleasure in informing you that not later than September 1, and sooner, if arrangements can be completed, transfers will be issued between the systems of the Orange and Passaic Valley Railway Company and the North Jersey Street Railway Company at intersecting points in the Oranges."

As these two companies are still legal organizations, there is no legal requirement that these transfers should be issued, but Public Service, as the owner of a large controlling interest in the capital stocks of both companies, believes that the convenience of the public will be promoted by this arrangement, and is therefore not disposed to stand upon technicalities. I trust that this new arrangement will prove of convenience to the people of Orange."

The usual formality in connection with the Essex Cross Railway Company's franchise application was enacted by the Council, and the monotony of the ceremony relieved by an increase in the negative vote, Mr. Walker voting with Dr. Harrison against the motion.

A new trolley scheme in which this town has important interest has been brought to light through the investigations of the commission appointed by Governor Murphy to inquire into the expediency of the Legislature passing an act permitting the abandonment of the Morris Canal.

There is in the office of William H. Corbin, counsel for the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company, a map of a trolley route between Newark and Paterson along the course of the Morris Canal.

Mr. Corbin in reply to questions as to the purposes for which it was proposed to use the canal property since its use as a waterway was abandoned replied: "I have heard it said that a trolley road might be constructed through Newark, and thence to Paterson, following the line of the canal. How much foundation for the report there is I do not say, but the plan would be feasible. I do not see what other use could be made of the canal bed in that section."

Mr. Corbin then got out his maps and showed how such a trolley road would run by a circuitous route through Newark to Bloomfield and thence to Paterson. The advantage of such a trolley line would be that there would be no limitation upon the speed of the cars and no danger of accident to life, as it would cross no thoroughfares at grade. If the plan is carried out there will be but 3.13 miles of right of way to be acquired by condemnation, that much only in Essex and Passaic Counties reverting to former owners in the event of the canal abandonment.

The Lehigh Valley Railroad Company not only seeks permission to abandon the canal, but also to change the public use of the property. Mr. Corbin denied emphatically that the Lehigh Valley Company proposed to use the canal for steam-railroad purposes. The chief purpose of the desire for the abandonment of the canal, he said, was to save expense.

Since the canal was leased to the railroad company in 1871, it has been operated at an annual loss of from \$176,000 to \$391,000. The canal was a losing venture before the Lehigh Valley took possession of it. No matter what becomes of the canal the Lehigh Valley Company must continue to pay annual interest for all time dividends and interest.